

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. ____**

Introduced by: Pelath, Fry

A RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to monitor certain actions by public utilities that may result in diminished quality of service.

Whereas, The utility industry provides electric, natural gas, telecommunications, and water and wastewater services to residential, commercial, and industrial customers in Indiana;

Whereas, Utility services are vital to the health, safety, and economic well-being of Hoosiers;

Whereas, The Indiana Code states, "Every utility is required to furnish reasonably adequate services and facilities";



Whereas, The utility industry is in a state of reorganization and consolidation;

Whereas, The changes in the utility industry may detrimentally affect the ability of utilities to meet their statutory changes;

Whereas, The closures and relocation of customer service centers, maintenance divisions, and other utility operations place the public welfare at risk;

Whereas, Public utility holding companies own and operate numerous subsidiaries that are both regulated utilities and unregulated entities;

Whereas, Public utility holding companies in every sector of the utility industry are consolidating through mergers and acquisitions;

Whereas, The Indiana Supreme Court has held that the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission does not have the authority to approve or reject a merger involving a public utility holding company operating a subsidiary utility within Indiana;

Whereas, Utility customers in the state of Indiana have been and will be affected by the reorganization and consolidation of the utility industry; and

Whereas, Indiana law requires utility companies to provide adequate service at rates that are just and reasonable: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the House of Representatives is concerned with
2 the consolidation and reorganization within the utility industry.

3 SECTION 2. That the House of Representatives opposes any
4 action by utility companies that places the public welfare at risk
5 through diminished quality of service.

6 SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of



- 1 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Chairman
- 2 William McCarty of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission and
- 3 Utility Consumer Counselor Anne Becker.

